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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): LUDESI AB [SE/SE]; Växthuset Idéon, S-223 70 Lund (SE).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): WALLMARK, Gustav [SE/SE]; Gladstonevägen 3, S-224 56 Lund (SE). (SE). HEYDEN, Anders [SE/SE]; Skogslyckevägen 9, S-240 10 Dalby (SE). KARLSSON, Andreas [SE/SE]; Trollebergsvägen 24A, S-222 29 Lund (SE). FORSSTRÖM-OLSSON, Ola [SE/SE]; Trastvägen 3, S-227 31 Lund (SE).

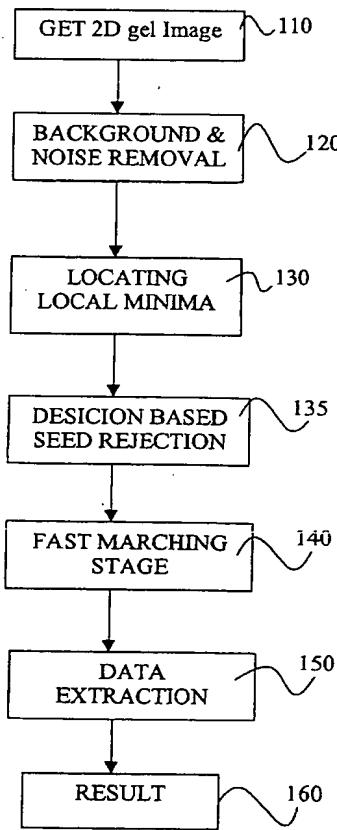
(74) Agents: EK, Martin et al.; c/o Albihns Malmö AB, P.O. Box 4289, S-203 14 Malmö (SE).

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(54) Title: METHOD AND MEANS FOR 2D-GEL-IMAGE SEGMENTATION



(57) **Abstract:** The present invention relates to the segmentation of two-dimensional gel electrophoresis images (2D images). The method according to the invention associates an initial protein seed candidate with an interface circumscribing said seed and thereafter brings said interface to evolve in accordance with a defined speed function $F(x, y)$. The evolution of the interface is halted by a stopping criterion, C . According to the invention, the speed function can depend on a wide variety of parameters such as the pixel intensity, the curvature of the pixel intensity, the distance to the initial seed, the curvature and/or shape and/or normal direction and/or position of the evolving interface. The stopping criterion depends e.g. on the speed function F and/or the time of arrival $T(x, y)$ and/or the departure time T_d for said interface. The invention provides criteria for a specific treatment of saturated spots and to make sure that interfaces never overlap.

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Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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Prior Applications: SE 0201894-3, filed on 19 June 2002.....

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Name: WALLMARK Gustav

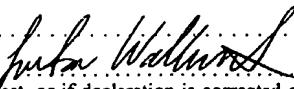
Residence: Sweden

(city and either US state, if applicable, or country)

Mailing Address: Gladstonevägen 3

SE-224 56 Lund, Sweden

Citizenship: Swedish

Inventor's Signature:  Date: 2003-08-11
(if not contained in the request, or if declaration is corrected or added under Rule 26ter after the filing of the international application. The signature must be that of the inventor, not that of the agent)

Date: 2003-08-11

(of signature which is not contained in the request, or of the declaration that is corrected or added under Rule 26ter after the filing of the international application)

Name: HEYDEN Anders

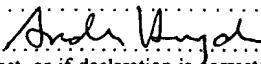
Residence: Sweden

(city and either US state, if applicable, or country)

Mailing Address: Skogslyckevägen 9

SE-240 10 Dalby, Sweden

Citizenship: Swedish

Inventor's Signature:  Date: 2003-08-12
(if not contained in the request, or if declaration is corrected or added under Rule 26ter after the filing of the international application. The signature must be that of the inventor, not that of the agent)

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